



"TO THINE OWN SELF BE TRUE, AND IT MUST FOLLOW AS THE NIGHT THE DAY: THOU CANST NOT THEN BE FALSE TO ANY MAN."

By STECK, SHELOR & SCHRODER.

WALHALLA, SOUTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 1916.

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# MASCOT

## Ground Limestone,

The Great  
Plant Food Liberator.

Call and see us now and make arrangements for delivery to you of sufficient quantities to meet your needs. Ground Limestone is best applied to land during the fall and winter months. The spring rains and sunshine do the rest, liberating the plant food and insuring better crops and better land.

Come in and let us make you prices. If you are interested in Advanced Methods of Agriculture we know that we can interest you.

The best you can do for your land is none too good. You can't do better than apply Ground Lime liberally, especially if troubled with soil acidity.

C. W. & J. E. BAUKNIGHT,  
WALHALLA, S. C.  
It Pays to Buy for Cash.

**AUGUST 2, 1916.**  
**232 Years Ago To-day**  
The American Colonists completed a Treaty with the Five Nations of Indians at Albany, N. Y.

THESE tribes were more treacherous and ferocious than the majority of Indians. Harassing the Whites for a number of years, they were finally brought to the point of making peace. This treaty with the Red Men brought peace of mind to the settlers.

Times are greatly changed now-a-days, yet we all desire peace of mind. To acquire it, have a snug sum laid away in the Bank.

**WESTMINSTER BANK**  
When You Think of Banking Think of  
THE WESTMINSTER BANK.

### KINGSTREE CONDITIONS BAD.

Distress Already Apparent Among  
Croppers and Lien Dependents.

(News and Courier Special.)

Kingstree, S. C., July 29.—On account of the continued downpours the crop situation in this section grows worse from day to day. Since the first of July 29.27 inches of rain has fallen, more than the average fall for six months. Fields are ankle deep under water in many localities, and where this condition does not prevail the soil is so wet and boggy that it is impossible to walk over it and weeds and grass are taking the cotton that was left in the fields after the recent severe wind and rain storm. When it is not raining the sun is so hot that farmers fear their chances for any part of a cotton crop are practically gone.

Already considerable distress is felt among share croppers, and some farmers who depend upon the lien merchants to furnish them from year to year. With prospects of a crop gone the lien merchants refuse to supply them further, as a result many are having a hard time in getting the necessities of life.

A representative of the Federal government was in Kingstree this week to look over the situation with a view to furnishing government aid. During this official visit here he was taken to the stores of the two largest lien merchants to hear the tales of woe that hourly come to the proprietors along with solicitations for

a little meal, meat, rice or grits. Senator E. C. Epps has been in communication with Representative Ragsdale relative to government aid, and since Representative Lever is also working for similar aid it is likely that assistance from this source will be provided. Garden truck of no kind is obtainable here now and citizens are forced to use canned or dried vegetables.

Yesterday was clear and hot, but about 3 o'clock this morning another downpour of rain came and between that hour and daylight 2.62 inches fell. Black River rose 8 inches during the night and is now 13 1/2 feet high.

All trains, fortunately, are now running on the main line of the Atlantic Coast Line and mails are coming in regularly, a condition that saves the people of the community from a spirit of pitiable depression, such as existed here the first part of the week, when train and mail service were practically cut off.

### Charged With Murder.

Sumter, July 30.—Lucy Crim and Sarah Brown, wife and mother-in-law, respectively, of Sam Crim, are in the county jail on the charge of having murdered Sam Crim, the warrant for their arrest being issued following an inquest by the coroner and the return of the jury's verdict.

His wife was the only person in the room when a pistol was fired and the ball lodged in his brain, death being almost instantaneous. The killing occurred near Borden, Sumter county, early Friday morning.

### STRIPLING AT LAST FREE MAN.

Governor Harris, of Georgia, Grants Full Pardon to Noted Convict.

Atlanta, July 29.—Thomas Edgar Stripling, who served as chief of police of Danville, Va., for almost 4 of the 14 years that he was an escaped convict, was granted a full pardon by Governor Nat E. Harris at 6 o'clock to-night.

Since the first day that "Chief R. E. Morris," of Danville, was brought back to Georgia to resume his life sentence as Stripling, influential attempts were made through three State administrations to have him pardoned. All these failed, however, until Governor Harris went to Milledgeville in July, 1915, to inspect the State prison farm.

### Little Girl's Plea.

While there one of Stripling's eight children, a girl of six, ran to him in the prison grounds and bashfully pleaded to "please let my papa out because he is sick and we all need him so bad." The incident touched the aged Governor and he promised "to send your father back to you some time during his term."

After completing an exhaustive review of the case, Governor Harris to-night dispatched a letter to little Bessie Stripling and completed the case in its last sentence with: "After all it is the offering from the Governor's heart to the love and innocence of a little child."

Stripling, on September 4, 1897, shot and killed W. J. Cornett, his neighbor, in Harris county, Georgia. He fired through a window of Cornett's house. He surrendered at Columbus, Ga., a few days afterward and eventually was found guilty and sentenced to life imprisonment.

### Insulted Wife.

Stripling testified at the trial and it was corroborated that Cornett had insulted both his wife and married sister; that Cornett had threatened to kill him, and that when passing Cornett's house the night of the killing he could not restrain himself from shooting when he saw Cornett passing a window with a light in his hand. He claimed self-defense, as he said he believed "it was either Cornett's life or mine some time."

He escaped from the Harris county jail when his case was awaiting the outcome of an appeal. He remained hidden about two months at the home of his uncle in Harris county, and then made his way to North Carolina, where his wife joined him in 1899. Under the name of R. E. Morris he did different kinds of work in several towns for a number of years. Finally he was employed by the Southern Railway as a special agent. That work took him to Danville, where he had been about one year when he obtained a place on the police force. Nine months later the escaped convict was elected chief of police.

### Two Men Who Knew Him.

Stripling has stated since his return to Georgia that there were two men in Danville who knew his life story, but they remained silent. Finally a man well known in Harris county saw him. Soon afterwards reports of Stripling's whereabouts were heard. These reports seemed to C. M. Smith, a private detective, to warrant investigation. He obtained requisition papers from Governor Brown and went to Danville. Smith established the identification beyond a doubt.

On March 4, 1911, the Danville council was to elect a chief of police and it is said Stripling was practically assured of re-election, notwithstanding some opposition had arisen because he had killed a young white man who had resisted arrest, had killed a negro who was attempting to rob his home and shot another negro while resisting arrest. He was exonerated of blame in each case.

On the afternoon of March 3, however, Smith presented the requisition papers to Danville authorities. Stripling was confronted with the fact and admitted his identity.

Stripling requested the mayor and members of council who at that time were unaware of his plight, to meet that night, as he had an important statement to make. Before the body that probably would have elected him chief of police for another term the next night he stood handcuffed, but in his uniform, and told the story of the shooting of "Bill" Cornett, of his escape and movements during the nearly 14 years of freedom. He still wore his uniform when placed in jail in Georgia.

His family moved to Milledgeville soon after he was sent to prison and has resided near the prison farm since. Stripling is now represented as being thoroughly broken physically.

### Old Job Offered Stripling.

Macon, Ga., July 31.—Thos. Edgar Stripling, who for nearly four of the 14 years he was an escaped convict from Georgia served as chief of police at Danville, Va., under the name of "R. E. Morris," passed through here en route to join his family at Columbus, Ga., and announced that his pardon yesterday by Governor Harris, had been followed by an offer from the president of the board of aldermen at Danville for him to resume his position as police chief in that city.

The former Danville chief said he wanted to rest for a short time and would decide later what he would do.

### OCONEE'S ENROLLMENT, 4,112.

Increase of 505 Over Enrollment for Primaries Two Years Ago.

Oconee shows a substantial gain in the enrollment of Democratic voters for 1916, the total of those who have "signed up" properly being 4,112, as against 3,607 in 1914, an increase of 505. Below is given the enrollment for the county by precincts, with the 1914 figures for comparison. Seven precincts show a decrease, these being Clemson College, Double Springs, Newry, Providence, Retreat, Taber, West Union. In three precincts—Belmont, Oakway, Wolf Pit—the enrollment for 1916 is identical with that of 1914.

### Enrollment Figures.

Precinct—	1914	1916
Bethlehem	51	66
Belmont	30	30
Clemson College	91	82
Damascus	23	25
Double Springs	53	50
Earle's Mill	71	84
Fair Play	85	149
Friendship	56	94
High Falls No. 1	50	62
High Falls No. 2	75	85
Holly Springs	67	71
Jocassee	27	28
Jordan	76	79
Little River	32	46
Long Creek	88	91
Madison	64	84
Monaghan	62	66
Newry	179	155
Oak Grove	61	63
Oakway	199	199
Picket Post	58	66
Providence	38	25
Retreat	52	45
Richland	72	82
Salem	195	192
Seneca	401	416
South Union	139	155
Taber	70	65
Tamassee	51	70
Tokena	93	98
Tugaloo Academy	41	62
Walhalla	342	420
Westminster	350	432
West Union	241	209
Wolf Pit	33	33
Oconee Creek	—	70
Return	—	65
Totals	3,607	4,112

### JULY COTTON CONDITION 66.1.

Estimate is Based on 2,000 Inquiries Made in Cotton Belt.

(News and Courier Special.)

Harvin, S. C., July 30.—Replies to 2,000 inquiries sent to every cotton growing county in the United States as to the condition of cotton for the month of July received up to 9 o'clock of the 29th instant, counting 100 per cent as a perfect crop, shows an average condition of 66.1 per cent.

All States east of the Mississippi river show excessive rainfall. For the States of Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas the rainfall is reported light and scant. The crop averages 2.8 weeks late and the average area abandoned is 10.7 per cent. Up to 9 p. m. last night no reports had been received from California, Missouri and Virginia. These reports show the crop affected in the area reported by insects as follows: 62 per cent, no insects; 30 per cent, boll weevil; 2 per cent, by leaf lice; 1 per cent, by cotton wilt; 2 per cent, by boll borer; 2 per cent, by root rot, and 1 per cent, by red spider.

A majority of these reports show the stands are poor, plant weak, cultivation fair to good, and in the Atlantic States the nights have been too cool for the best growth of cotton.

The average condition by States is as follows:

State	Condition, Per cent.
Alabama	54.5
Arkansas	77.8
Florida	59.8
Georgia	65
Louisiana	77.5
Mississippi	57.8
North Carolina	63
Oklahoma	80
South Carolina	57.7
Tennessee	72.5
Texas	62.4

Ben H. Harvin.

### POLITICAL.

#### County Campaign Correction.

Walhalla, S. C., July 31. The following is the corrected campaign schedule for county offices in Oconee, made by the County Executive Committee on Saturday, July 29th:

Double Springs, Thursday, Aug. 10th, 10 a. m.  
Westminster, Saturday, Aug. 12th, 10 a. m.  
Westminster, (Oconee Mill), Aug. 12th, 7.30 p. m.  
Seneca, Saturday, Aug. 19th, 10 a. m.  
Newry, Saturday, Aug. 19th, 7.30 p. m.  
Oconee Creek, Tuesday, Aug. 22d, 10 a. m.  
Salem, Wednesday, Aug. 23d, 10 a. m.  
Walhalla, Saturday, Aug. 26th, 10 a. m.

If the citizens of Long Creek desire a meeting, it can probably be arranged for Friday, August 11th, at 10 a. m.  
Jas. M. Moss,  
County Chairman.

### \$25,000,000 NEW YORK FIRE.

Munitions Warehouses on Black Tom Island Destroyed.

New York, July 30.—Property loss estimated at \$25,000,000, was caused early to-day by a series of terrific explosions of ammunition waiting shipment to the entente allies and stored on Black Tom Island, a small strip of land jutting into New York Bay, off Jersey City. The loss of life still was problematical to-night. It will not be determined definitely until there has been opportunity to check up the workmen employed on the island and on boats moored nearby.

Two are known to be dead and at least two more are missing. Scores of persons were injured, some of them probably mortally.

### Shock Felt in Five States.

The detonations, which were felt in five States, began with a continuous rapid fire of small shells, then the blowing up of great quantities of dynamite, trinitrotoluene and other high explosives, followed by the bursting of thousands of shrapnel shells, which showered the surrounding country and waters for miles around.

Fire that started soon after the first great crash destroyed 13 of the huge warehouses of the National Storage Company, on Black Tom Island, in which were stored merchandise valued between \$12,000,000 and \$15,000,000. The flames, shooting into the clouds, were reflected against New York's "skyline" of towering office buildings, which only a few moments before were shaken to their foundations as if by an earthquake. Miles of streets in Manhattan were strewn with broken glass and shattered signs.

Early reports of heavy loss of life were impossible of verification, and the authorities asserted the number of deaths probably would be small. It was said that owing to the extent of the wreckage, it might be several days before the exact figures could be obtained.

### Cause of Disaster.

The cause of the disaster had not been determined to-night. Officials of the National Storage Company and the Lehigh Valley Railway, which also suffered heavily through loss of property, declared that reports to them showed a fire started shortly after 1 o'clock this morning on a barge belonging to an independent towing company that had been moored alongside a dock used by the railroad to transfer ammunition shipments from trains to vessels in the harbor.

The barge, it was said, was there without authority either of the railroad or the storage company. The officials refused to disclose the name of the independent towing company, saying they were investigating "to ascertain whether the barge purposefully had been set on fire as the result of a plot."

Thirteen brick storage warehouses out of the 24 owned and operated by the National Storage Company, and six piers owned by the storage company and leased to the Lehigh Valley road were destroyed. Several others of the brick warehouses were badly damaged and some minor damage was done to the Lehigh Valley grain elevators. In addition, as far as is known, 85 loaded cars were destroyed.

### Two Arrests; Others to Follow.

New York, July 31.—Albert M. Dickman, Lehigh Valley railroad agent stationed at Black Tom pier, and Alexander Davidson, superintendent of warehouses of the National Storage Company, were arrested to-day charged with manslaughter in indirectly causing the death of one victim by explosion of ammunition at the pier yesterday. A warrant has been issued for Theodore B. Johnson, president of the Lightering company, one of whose barges, loaded with ammunition was alleged to have been moored at the pier.

Frank Hague, commissioner of public safety of Jersey City, charged the blame for the explosion lay with either the Lehigh Valley Railroad Company or the Lightering Company, and some of them had violated New Jersey laws, Jersey City ordinances and rules of the Interstate Commerce Commission by permitting barges loaded with ammunition to remain moored at piers over night. These barges were being used to transport ammunition to steamers lying in Gravesend Bay.

### "Cleaned Up" a Small Band.

El Paso, Texas, July 31.—Private John Twoey, Troop F, Eighth U. S. Cavalry; Robert Woods, customs inspector, were killed, and Sergt. Lewis Thompson, Troop F, seriously wounded, in a clash with Mexican bandits five miles below Fort Hancock, to-day. The bandits, numbering less than ten, who crossed the Rio Grande a few miles below Fort Hancock, were all killed, reports indicated.

### Government Wins Big Suit.

San Francisco, July 29.—Judge Benjamin F. Bledsoe, of the United States District Court, awarded to the United States government to-day title to 160 acres of Kern county oil land, valued at \$10,000,000, and known as the McCutchen section in the government's ouster suit, brought under the Taft withdrawal order of 1909.

### CARRANZA TO RETIRE SOON.

Will Quit As First Chief to Try for Presidency of Mexico.

Laredo, Texas, July 30.—Venustiano Carranza is to retire as first chief of the de facto government of Mexico at an early date and will be succeeded by Gen. Pablo Gonzales, according to information given out by Mexican administrative circles in Nuevo Laredo to-night.

The forthcoming conference of Mexican generals with Gen. Carranza in Mexico City, it was said, is to arrange for the call for general elections, the retirement of Carranza and the entrance of the latter into the field as a Presidential candidate. It is known that several high army officers now are en route to Mexico City, and the Nuevo Laredo information was that Carranza called the conference to prevent possible friction in military circles over his proposed retirement.

No definite date has been set for the conference, but the same authorities said Gen. Gonzales's succession to Carranza would not be long delayed.

### As Washington Anticipated.

Washington, July 30.—The reported intention of Gen. Carranza to retire as first chief so that he may become a candidate for the Presidency conforms to the expectations of officials here who have understood he would follow that course as soon as conditions in Mexico warranted the holding of national election. Such a retirement, it is expected, would be merely nominal and would not mean any actual change in the directing authority of the Mexico City government. Under the Mexican constitution Gen. Carranza would be ineligible as a Presidential candidate unless he relinquishes his military position.

### ATTACKED SENECA MAGISTRATE

Grover Crooks Now in Jail to Await Trial for His Assault.

Grover Crooks was arrested in Seneca and brought to Walhalla early Monday morning and lodged in jail by Sheriff John W. Davis. Crooks made an assault upon the person of Magistrate J. N. Hopkins, of Seneca, some time between 11 o'clock Sunday night and 2 o'clock Monday morning, using a fence palling as his weapon, with which he gave Magistrate Hopkins some very severe licks, battering him up considerably.

It seems that Crooks had come into town late at night, getting off a late train or coming in from the country, and he paid a negro a dollar, it is said, to go to the home of Mr. Hopkins and tell him that some one wanted him at his office at once to perform a marriage ceremony. The magistrate was expecting to perform some such goodly service for a party who had notified him to be ready, but he had not been prepared for the summons at such an hour. However, he responded to the summons, getting up and starting to his office. Shortly before reaching the office he heard a slight noise behind him and turned just in time to ward off with his arm a stout blow aimed at his head. He was struck several times when he realized that he was powerless against the fence palling fighter, so he closed in on his assailant, thus rendering the force of the blows less effective. After he had clinched with Crooks, however, the latter resorted to biting, and Mr. Hopkins received several bites that proved not altogether pleasant.

Crooks was arrested within a short while by local police, who at once notified Sheriff Davis, and at 2 o'clock Crooks was on his way to the Walhalla jail, Mr. Davis going at once by automobile to the scene, getting the magistrate's assailant before the police officers had had time to lock him up.

This is the second attack Crooks has made on Magistrate Hopkins, we are informed, and the present occurrence is doubtless the outgrowth of the first. Crooks was arrested for his first offense, tried before another Magistrate and fined \$50. It seems that he has ever since held a grudge against Mr. Hopkins, and took this means to "get even."

Fortunately Mr. Hopkins was not seriously hurt in the attack, though he is quite painfully used up. Monday afternoon, in spite of his injuries, he was out among his friends, who are many, and who rejoice in his escape from the fury of his wily assailant.

### Executive Committee Meeting Aug. 5.

There will be a meeting of the County Executive Committee at Walhalla on Saturday, August 5th, at 11 a. m. It is very important that each club shall be represented by its executive committeeman, in order that the enrollment books may be corrected, if necessary. This meeting was called for Saturday, July 29, but fewer than half the clubs were represented. This is a very important matter, as the duplicate for your club cannot be made until it is gone over by your executive committeeman. Other business of importance may come up.

Jas. M. Moss,  
County Chairman.

The Russian wheat yield is only ten bushels to the acre.

WE SELL  
**SAME Goods For Less Money**  
AND  
**MORE Goods For Same Money**  
**L. BLUMENTHAL'S** Bargain Store,  
Westminster, S. C.